

OFFICE COPY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME

HISTORIC St. Ignatius College

AND/OR COMMON

St. Ignatius College Prep

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1076 West Roosevelt

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Illinois

CODE

COUNTY
Cook

CODE

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Society of Jesus

STREET & NUMBER
1076 West Roosevelt

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Cook County Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER
County Building, 118 North Clark Street

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
ILLINOIS HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY

DATE
1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS DEPT. OF CONSERVATION, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

CITY, TOWN

SPRINGFIELD

STATE

ILL.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

DESCRIPTION

St. Ignatius School, a monumental, five-story building, is faced with Illinois cut stone on the ground floor and brick on succeeding floors. Each window is trimmed with stone; the corners have decorative quoins. The building is T-shaped.

The school building is approached by a formal axial double staircase. Its wrought iron balustrade with its maker's plate is original. Massive paneled entry doors each carved with a lion's head open into a vestibule. The trim framing this arched doorway imitates rope. The transom contains original etched glass displaying the school's emblem and address when built.

The center hall extends without interruption from the front to the rear of the building. Just beyond the entrance vestibule there is a parlor on either side of this hall. Both have tin ceilings. Because the parlor doors and their paneled jambs remain unpainted, they provide one of the few examples in the building of the fine original finish. The trim throughout the building is hardwood. The flooring is random-width hardwood; much of it is now covered with tile.

Beyond the parlors, crossing the center hall at right angles, is another hallway. On both sides of that hallway there are wide curving staircases leading to the upper three floors. The newel posts and handrails are supported by tongue-and-groove fir beaded boards instead of balusters.

Beyond the staircase, farther along the central corridor, are offices, a lecture hall, and a chapel. The latter has been greatly altered so that all that remains of its original decoration is one chandelier and its doors with their etched and colored glass. These rooms generally had tin ceilings, but some are now covered over.

The ground floor has kitchen and dining facilities for the priests and classrooms for the students. There are living quarters for the priests on the upper floors of the building. The second floor also contains a library, and the second and third floors have classrooms as well. On the fourth floor there is a gymnasium (originally the auditorium) and the Cambridge Room (which began as a museum). The latter is the most magnificent room in the school building. It is two stories high, and its walls are lined with richly carved two-story bookcase units. The balcony level of the bookcases is reached by a double, curved staircase. Panels decorated with carved flowers and plants were executed by the Brunswick & Blake Company, manufacturers of pool tables. Carved wooden columns support the balcony. The original ceiling fixture has been electrified. Stencils on the ceiling were covered when a sprinkler system was added.

The fifth floor has the original acolyte meeting hall. This floor is not apparent from the exterior since it shares the 18-foot windows with the floor below. Although now used for storage and in a great

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1869-1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

To find a pre-fire Catholic school still surviving in Chicago on the scale and magnificence of St. Ignatius is remarkable. Its handsome architecture is a tribute to the determination of the American Jesuits to have only the finest in their educational facilities. That the building is still being used for educational purposes after a period of 105 years is a tribute to the zeal of Father Damen, whose name remains commonplace in Chicago today because of the major street named after him.

HISTORY

Father Arnold Damen, born in DeLour, Holland, on March 20, 1815, came to America in the company of Father DeSmet in 1837. While pastor of the Jesuit church of St. Francis Xavier in St. Louis, he managed the parish schools and realized the importance of this aspect of parochial service. In 1856, he was invited by Bishop O'Regan of Chicago to conduct a series of spiritual revivals which met with great success. This prompted Bishop O'Regan to invite Father Damen to establish a Jesuit parish in Chicago. With the sanction of his Superior in St. Louis Father Damen chose a site on the west side where large numbers of Irish Catholic immigrants were settling down and building small wooden houses. That was the year 1857, remembered especially for its business panic. Even though banks, business and commercial houses were closing throughout America, Father Damen tactfully cultivated the good will of his parishioners and in 1857 they supported him in his efforts to build a small frame church. They also stood behind him until he realized his dream of a college dedicated to St. Ignatius.

Financial difficulty forced the catholic university of St. Mary of the Lake in Chicago to close its doors in 1866 which provided Father Damen with justification for building a Jesuit college for catholic boys. Property was purchased in 1868, the foundation laid, and part of the walls built when progress was halted due to lack of funds. At this time the Acting Provincial, Father Joseph Keller, a man of enterprise and vision, was notified of Father Damen's plight. Father Keller had been thwarted in his plans to build a boarding school on a grand scale, and he was eager to see Father Damen succeed.

To circumvent the 10% interest on money borrowed in Chicago, pleas were sent to the Paternity to allow Father Damen to travel to Holland with Father James Van Coeh to secure an assured sum of \$20,000

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

8. HISTORY, continued

at 4% interest from Father Van Goch's brother. Permission to leave for Holland in June of 1868 was granted when it was explained in a letter that "the building is to be built on a large scale to compete with protestant colleges and public schools, which are like palaces. It is necessary to do this to induce parents to give us the preference; external appearances do much to impress Americans."

In September of 1868, Father Damen and Father Van Goch returned, money in hand. The structural work of the college proceeded and was completed in 1870. The cost of construction was approximately \$230,000, an enormous amount at that time. With two classes of students and a staff of four professors, the college was formally opened in September 1870. It was grandiose like all of Father Keller's conceptions. By 1895, the attendance had grown to require the addition of a wing at the rear of the building.

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

state of disrepair, the hall at one time was elaborately fitted out and its ceilings were stenciled. Remnants of this decoration are still visible today.

The attic, lit by dormer windows, houses the great wooden trusses whose cores support the ceilings below and whose rafters support the roof.

A wing containing classrooms was designed and built at the rear of the building in 1895.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mulkerins, Thomas M. Holy Family Parish: Priests and People, 1923
 Father Coppers, S. J. "Recollections of Notable Pioneers," Illinois Catholic Historical Review, Vol II, No. 4, April 1920.
 Carraghan Gilbert J., S. J. "Beginnings of Holy Family Parish, Chicago," Illinois Catholic Historical Review, Vol I, No. 4, April 1919.
 Pierce, Fessie Louise. A History of Chicago, Vol. II, 1940, p. 362.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY See the map
 UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>12</u>	<u>140150</u>	<u>1635000</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Arnette L. Valenta DATE: May 30, 1976
 ORGANIZATION: _____ TELEPHONE: (312) 652-7485
 STREET & NUMBER: 2105 South Austin Boulevard CITY OR TOWN: Illinois
 CITY OR TOWN: Cicero STATE: _____

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE X LOCAL _____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

FOR REFERENCE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE _____
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE _____
ATTEST	DATE _____
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered NOV 17 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cluever, Richard, House	Maywood Cook County
First Congregational Church of Austin	Chicago Cook County
Kent, Sydney, House	Chicago Cook County
St. Ignatius College	Chicago Cook County

Also Notified

Hon. Charles H. Percy
Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson
Hon. Henry J. Hyde
Hon. Dan Rostenkowski
Hon. Ralph H. Metcalfe
Hon. Cardiss Collins

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION